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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/820,298	03/29/2001	Masahiro Kurishima	826.1724	1849
21171	7590	10/05/2004	EXAMINER	
STAAS & HALSEY LLP SUITE 700 1201 NEW YORK AVENUE, N.W. WASHINGTON, DC 20005			HUTTON JR, WILLIAM D	
			ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
			2179	

DATE MAILED: 10/05/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/820,298

Applicant(s)

KURISHIMA ET AL.

Examiner

Doug Hutton

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-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
 - If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
 - Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 16 May 2001.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1-25 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 29 March 2001 is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☒ objected to by the Examiner.
- Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☒ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) *
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) ☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date 05162001.
- 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____.
- 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) ☐ Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Japan on 10 November 2000. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the Japanese application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Specification

The disclosure is objected to because of the following informalities:

- the phrase "this does not *unittoring* of the annotation alone" on Page 2, Lines 7-8 should be amended because it makes no sense;
- the term "that" on Page 2, Line 14 should be deleted so the sentence reads more clearly;
- the number "39" on Page 17, Line 25 should be amended to — 35 — because that is the proper reference number for the frame containing the "comment input dialog" (see Figure 8); and
- the number "6A" on Page 24, Line 18 should be amended to — 6B — because that is the proper figure that displays comment window 27 (see Figure 6B).

Appropriate correction is required.

The specification is objected to as failing to provide proper antecedent basis for the claimed subject matter. See 37 CFR 1.75(d)(1) and MPEP § 608.01(o). Correction of the following is required: the “expression information” of Claim 7 (see Lines 4-5).

For purposes of examination, the examiner will assume that this limitation is meant to indicate a particular type of annotation.

Drawings

The drawings are objected to because the reference number “33” in Figure 7, used to identify the frame containing the character string “automobile phone,” should be amended to — 34 — because that is the proper reference number (see Specification – Page 17, Line 7).

The drawings are objected to as failing to comply with 37 CFR 1.84(p)(5) because they do not include the following reference sign(s) mentioned in the description: 46 (see Specification – Page 23, Line 7).

Corrected drawing sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing should not be labeled as “amended.” If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet,

and where necessary, the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Objections

Claim 3 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- the term "said" should be inserted between the terms "wherein" on Line 1 and "desired" on Line 2 because the "desired comment information" has been previously mentioned (see Claim 1, Line 4); and
- the term "a" should be inserted between the terms "merging" and "specified" on Line 7 so that the claim reads in proper idiomatic English.

Claims 5 and 12 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- the phrase "wherein said hypertext link information includes . . ." (see Claim 5, Lines 1-2) is improper because the "comment information" does not necessarily

include "hypertext link information" (see Claim 4, Lines 1-5); Claim 12 has the same problem.

Claim 8 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- the term "said" in Line 5 should be amended to — a — because a "specialized tag" is not previously mentioned in the claims; and
- the term "comment" in Line 6 should be amended to — comment text — because that is how the element is previously identified (see Claim 7, Line 4).

Claims 14 and 17 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- the phrase "the related address" in Claims 14, Line 3 should be amended to — said page — because a "related address" is not previously mentioned in the claims and so the claim reads more clearly; Claim 17 has the same problem.

Claim 16 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- the phrase "that can be displayed" in Line 6 should be amended to — for display — so the claim reads more clearly.

Claim 18 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- the term "displaying" in Line 2 should be amended to — displays — so the claim reads more clearly.

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Claims 19, 22 and 25 are objected to because of the following informalities:

- the phrase “executing the following processes” in Claim 19, Lines 2-3 should be amended to — comprising — so the claim reads more clearly; Claims 22 and 25 have the same problem.

Claim 20 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- the term “wherein” in Line 2 should be amended to — comprising — so the claim reads more clearly.

Claim 23 is objected to because of the following informalities:

- the term “having” in Line 2 should be amended to — comprising — so the claim reads more clearly.

Appropriate correction is required.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States

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only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1, 2, 4, 5, 7, 9-12 and 23-25 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by DeMello et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,714,214.

Claim 1:

DeMello discloses a client apparatus for displaying a page made in a markup language by a browser (see Figures 2 and 3A; see Column 3, Lines 3-9 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system displays documents, said documents including web pages), comprising:

- a comment information appending unit appending desired comment information to any arbitrary place in said page (see Figures 3A and 6B; see Column 2, Line 53 through Column 3, Line 49; see Column 6, Lines 26-45 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system allows the user to add annotations to documents and display the annotations in conjunction with the documents, said annotations are located at specified objects within the documents);
- a comment information separating unit separating said comment information appended by the comment information appending unit from said page (see Figure 6B; see Column 9, Line 27 through Column 10, Line 9 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system stores the annotations separately from the documents, as clearly indicated in the cited figure and text);

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- a comment information storing unit storing said comment information separated by the comment information separating unit (see Figure 6B; see Column 9, Line 27 through Column 10, Line 9 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system stores the annotations in annotation files that are separate from the document files); and
- a comment information merging unit merging said comment information stored by the comment information storing unit (see Figure 2; see Column 5, Line 61 through Column 6, Line 25 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system merges the annotations with the documents, as clearly indicated in the cited figure and text).

Claim 2:

DeMello discloses the client apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said place is at least one of either a specified tag of the markup language, a specified character string or graphical information (see Figures 2 and 3A; see Column 5, Line 61 through Column 6, Line 37 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system displays an icon, as shown in Figure 2, that indicates that an annotation is present in the line of text adjacent to the icon; also, as shown in Figure 3A, the user may elect to insert a “note” at the object “beginning;” thus, the document interface allows the user to “append desired comment information at a specified character string”).

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Claim 4:

DeMello discloses the client apparatus of Claim 1, wherein said comment information consists of at least one of either character string information, graphical information, signature/certification information or hypertext link information, and it can be distributed, jointly owned or transferred via a network or a recording medium (see Figure 3A; see Column 7, Lines 40-49 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system allows the user to add annotations that may include a bookmark, a highlight, a note or a drawing; thus the annotations consists of “character string information, graphical information and hypertext link information;” also, the bookmark, the highlight, the note and the drawing information “can be distributed, jointly owned or transferred via a network or a recording medium”).

Claim 5:

DeMello discloses the client apparatus of Claim 4, wherein said hypertext link information includes a shortcut function to a network or a bookmark function to a web page (see Figure 3A; see Column 7, Lines 40-49 – DeMello discloses this limitation, as clearly indicated in the cited figure and text).

Claim 7:

DeMello discloses the client apparatus of Claim 1, wherein the comment information separating unit retains, as said comment information, at least place information of the comment information, comment text, expression information of said

place and address information of the page including said place (see Figures 2, 3A, 6A and 6B; see Column 9, Line 44 through Column 10, Line 9 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system separates the annotation from the document and stores it; the file structure of the annotation includes the file position of the object with which the annotation is associated, the text of the annotation, an indication of the type of annotation, and a file portion that indicates to which document it is linked).

Claim 9:

DeMello discloses a recording medium recording a program for a client apparatus that displays a page made by a markup language using a browser (see Figures 2 and 3A; see Column 3, Lines 3-9; see Column 4, Lines 5-25 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the computer-implemented document interface system displays documents, said documents including web pages), executing the following processes:

- appending desired comment information to a desired place on the page of the markup language that is being viewed with a browser (see Figures 3A and 6B; see Column 2, Line 53 through Column 3, Line 49; see Column 6, Lines 26-45 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system allows the user to add annotations to documents and display the annotations in conjunction with the documents, said annotations are located at specified objects within the documents);

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- separating said comment information from the markup language said page (see Figure 6B; see Column 9, Line 27 through Column 10, Line 9 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system stores the annotations separately from the documents, as clearly indicated in the cited figure and text);
- storing said separated comment information (see Figure 6B; see Column 9, Line 27 through Column 10, Line 9 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system stores the annotations in annotation files that are separate from the document files); and
- merging the stored comment information with desired page of said markup language (see Figure 2; see Column 5, Line 61 through Column 6, Line 25 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system merges the annotations with the documents, as clearly indicated in the cited figure and text).

Claims 10-12:

Claims 10-12 correspond to Claims 2, 4 and 5, respectively. Thus, DeMello discloses every limitation of these claims using the same rationale indicated in the above rejections for Claims 2, 4 and 5.

Claim 23:

DeMello discloses a client apparatus displaying a page made in a markup language (see Figures 2 and 3A; see Column 3, Lines 3-9 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system displays documents, said documents including web pages), comprising:

- a detecting unit detecting a specified place in specified said page (see Figure 2; see Column 9, Lines 27-43 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system allows a user to enter an annotation into a document; as indicated in the above rejection of Claim 7, DeMello discloses that the file structure of the annotation includes the file position of the object with which the annotation is associated);
- an input unit inputting a comment to said specified place (as indicated in the above rejection of Claim 7, DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system merges the annotations with the documents); and
- a file making unit making a file composed of said comment information, the address information of said page and the information about said place in said page (see Figures 2, 3A, 6A and 6B; see Column 9, Line 44 through Column 10, Line 9 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system stores the annotation with the document; the file structure of the annotation includes the text of the annotation, a file portion that indicates to which document it is linked, and a file position of the object with which the annotation is associated).

Claim 24:

This claim merely recites computer software that performs the same method performed by the apparatus of Claim 23. Thus, DeMello discloses every element of Claim 24 using the same rationale indicated in the above rejection for Claim 23.

Claim 25:

This claim merely recites the method performed by the apparatus of Claim 23. Thus, DeMello discloses every element of Claim 25 using the same rationale indicated in the above rejection for Claim 23.

Claims 13-22 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Eintracht et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,687,878.

Claim 13:

Eintracht discloses a client apparatus that displays a page made in a markup language (see Figure 3; see Column 1, Lines 8-13 – Eintracht discloses this limitation in that the collaborative work system includes clients that display web documents), comprising:

- a storing unit storing comment information associated with a page (see Figure 3; see Column 6, Lines 48-54; see Column 10, Lines 40-63 – Eintracht discloses this limitation in that the collaborative work system includes a Notes Database that stores annotations for documents);

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- a judging unit judging whether there is any comment information related to a page (see Figure 1B; see Column 13, Line 36 through Column 14, Line 22 – Eintracht discloses this limitation in that the collaborative work system, after receiving a request from a client to retrieve the annotations associated with a document, determines whether there are any annotations for the requested document and, if there are, sets and displays the annotations with the document); and
- a display controlling unit setting said page and said comment information that can be displayed by said client apparatus when there is said comment information related to said page (as indicated in the above discussion, the collaborative work system sets and displays the annotations with the document at the client, if there are annotations associated with the document).

Claim 14:

Eintracht discloses the client apparatus of Claim 13, wherein said comment information includes address information of the related address, specified place information in said page and a comment text, and said display controlling unit sets the comment text that can be displayed by the client apparatus in association with the specified place information in said page (see Figure 1B; see Column 8, Lines 6-9; see Column 10, Lines 40-63 – Eintracht discloses this limitation in that the collaborative work system includes a Notes Database having records of the annotations comprising Note Document IDs, Note Anchor coordinates and Note Contents; thus, the “comment

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information includes address information of the related address, specified place information in said page and a comment text;" also, the collaborative work system places the annotations in the proper places in the documents and displays the annotated documents).

Claim 15:

Eintracht discloses the client apparatus of Claim 14, wherein the display controlling unit displays comment text corresponding said specified place information according an instruction that specified place information a displayed page should be detected (as indicated in the above rejections of Claims 13 and 14, the collaborative work system, upon request by the user at the client computer, retrieves all annotations associated with a document and displays the annotated document, said annotations being placed in the proper locations of said document; thus, the collaborative work system "displays comment text corresponding said specified place information according an instruction that specified place information a displayed page should be detected").

Claim 16:

Eintracht discloses a recording medium recording a program for a client apparatus that displays a page made in a markup language (see Figure 3; see Column 1, Lines 8-13 – Eintracht discloses this limitation in that the computer-implemented

collaborative work system includes clients that display web documents), executing the following processes:

- judging whether there is any comment information related to said page (see Figure 1B; see Column 13, Line 36 through Column 14, Line 22 – Eintracht discloses this limitation in that the collaborative work system, after receiving a request from a client to retrieve the annotations associated with a document, determines whether there are any annotations for the requested document and, if there are, displays the annotations with the document), and setting said page and said comment information that can be displayed by said client apparatus when there is any comment information related to said page (as indicated in the above discussion, the collaborative work system sets and displays the annotations with the document at the client, if there are annotations associated with the document).

Claims 17 and 18:

Claims 17 and 18 correspond to Claims 14 and 15, respectively. Thus, Eintracht discloses every limitation of these claims using the same rationale indicated in the above rejections for Claims 14 and 15.

Claim 19:

Eintracht discloses a display method for displaying a comment as well as a page made in a markup language (see Figure 1B; see Column 1, Lines 8-13 – Eintracht

discloses this limitation in that the collaborative work system includes clients that display annotated web documents), executing the following processes:

- judging whether there is any comment information related to the displayed page (see Figure 1B; see Column 13, Line 36 through Column 14, Line 22 – Eintracht discloses this limitation in that the collaborative work system, after receiving a request from a client to retrieve the annotations associated with a document, determines whether there are any annotations for the requested document and, if there are, displays the annotations with the document);
- setting said page and said comment information that can be displayed by the client apparatus when there is any comment information related to the page (as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 14, the collaborative work system sets and displays the annotations with the document at the client, if there are annotations associated with the document); and
- displaying the comment information corresponding to the instructed place according to an instruction that said displayed page should be detected (as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 14, the collaborative work system includes a Notes Database having records of the annotations comprising Note Anchor coordinates; thus, the collaborative work system places the annotations in the proper places in the documents and displays the annotated documents “according to an instruction that said displayed page should be detected”).

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Claim 20:

Eintracht discloses a client apparatus displaying a page made in a markup language (see Figure 3; see Column 1, Lines 8-13 – Eintracht discloses this limitation in that the collaborative work system includes clients that display web documents), comprising:

- an instructing unit instructing that said page indicated by an address included in the instructed comment information should be obtained (see Column 12, Lines 47-50 – Eintracht discloses this limitation in that the collaborative work system allows the user to launch a web browser and request a web page); and
- a display controlling unit setting said comment information that can be displayed by said client apparatus in association with specified place information in said page information having been obtained by the above-mentioned instruction based upon the specified place information included in said comment information (as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 14, the collaborative work system includes a Notes Database having records of the annotations comprising Note Anchor coordinates; thus, the collaborative work system places the annotations in the proper places in the documents and displays the annotated documents “based upon the specified place information included in said comment information”).

Claim 21:

This claim merely recites computer software that performs the same method performed by the apparatus of Claim 20. Thus, Eintracht discloses every element of Claim 21 using the same rationale indicated in the above rejection for Claim 20.

Claim 22:

Eintracht discloses a display method for displaying a comment as well as a page made in a markup language (see Figure 1B; see Column 1, Lines 8-13 – Eintracht discloses this limitation in that the collaborative work system includes clients that display annotated web documents), executing the following processes:

- detecting instructed comment information (the examiner notes that this limitation is extremely broad and that the collaborative work system of Eintracht “detects instructed comment information” in that it involves computers that process annotations for web pages);
- instructing that said page indicated by an address included in the instructed comment information should be obtained (as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 20, Eintracht discloses this limitation); and
- setting comment information to be displayable in association with specified place information in the page information that has been obtained by said instruction (see Figure 1B; see Column 8, Lines 6-9; see Column 10, Lines 40-63 – Eintracht discloses this limitation in that the collaborative work system includes a Notes Database having records of the annotations comprising Note Document

IDs, Note Anchor coordinates and Note Contents; thus, the collaborative work system "sets comment information to be displayable in association with specified place information in the page information"); and

- displaying comment information corresponding to said instructed place according to an instruction that said displayed page should be detected (see Figure 1B; see Column 13, Line 36 through Column 14, Line 22 – Eintracht discloses this limitation in that the collaborative work system, after receiving a request from a client to retrieve the annotations associated with a document, determines whether there are any annotations for the requested document and, if there are, displays the annotations with the document).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

Claims 3, 6 and 8 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over DeMello, in view of Van Hoff, U.S. Patent No. 5,822,539.

Claim 3:

As indicated in the above discussion, DeMello discloses every limitation of Claim

1. Also, DeMello discloses:

- appending desired comment information to said place by displaying it in at least one of either a specified tag of the markup language, a specified character string or graphical information as the arbitrary place for the markup language that is being displayed in the client apparatus at present (see Figures 2 and 3A; see Column 5, Line 61 through Column 6, Line 37 – DeMello discloses this limitation in that the document interface system displays an icon, as shown in Figure 2, that indicates that an annotation is present in the line of text adjacent to the icon; also, as shown in Figure 3A, the user may elect to insert a “note” at the object “beginning;” thus, the document interface allows the user to “append desired comment information by displaying it in a specified character string”).

DeMello fails to expressly disclose: _____

- appending desired comment information to said place by merging a specified tag and displaying it on a browser.

Van Hoff teaches a client apparatus for displaying a page made in a markup language by a browser (see Figure 1; see Column 3, Line 66 through Column 4, Line 21 – Van Hoff teaches this limitation in that the computer system includes a client that displays web pages), comprising:

- appending desired comment information to said place by merging a specified tag and displaying it on a browser (see Figures 3 and 4; see Column 7, Lines 24-65 – Van Hoff teaches this limitation in that the computer system annotates the web

page by inserting a link in the web page and displaying it on a browser; thus, the computer system “merges a specified tag and displays it on a browser”), for the purpose of providing additional information regarding the requested web page (see Column 3, Lines 11-21).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the apparatus, disclosed in DeMello, to include:

- appending desired comment information to said place by merging a specified tag and displaying it on a browser,

for the purpose of providing additional information regarding the requested web page, as taught by Van Hoff.

Claim 6:

DeMello fails to expressly disclose:

- a specified tag including, as tag information, not only link information to call said comment information when said place is clicked on, but also at least one of anchor mark information appended to said place, or information about pointer-shape variation occurring according to the pointer movement to said place.

Van Hoff teaches a client apparatus for displaying a page made in a markup language by a browser (see Figure 1; see Column 3, Line 66 through Column 4, Line 21 – Van Hoff teaches this limitation in that the computer system includes a client that displays web pages), comprising:

- a specified tag including, as tag information, not only link information to call said comment information when said place is clicked on (see Figures 3 and 4; see Column 7, Lines 24-65 – Van Hoff teaches this limitation in that the computer system annotates the web page by inserting a link in the web page; when a user clicks on the link, the computer system will load the hyperlinked web page and display it on the browser), but also at least one of anchor mark information appended to said place (see Figures 3 and 4; see Column 7, Lines 24-65 – Van Hoff teaches this limitation in that the computer system annotates the web page by inserting a link in the web page, said link including “anchor mark information”), for the purpose of providing additional information regarding the requested web page (see Column 3, Lines 11-21).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method, disclosed in DeMello, to include:

- a specified tag including, as tag information, not only link information to call said comment information when said place is clicked on, but also at least one of anchor mark information appended to said place, or information about pointer-shape variation occurring according to the pointer movement to said place, for the purpose of providing additional information regarding the requested web page, as taught by Van Hoff.

Claim 8:

As indicated in the above discussion, DeMello discloses every limitation of Claim

7. Also, DeMello discloses:

- the comment information merging unit obtaining the page including said place based on the comment information read from the comment information unit, said place of this obtained page is merged with an annotation and displayed on the browser, and at least said comment is merged with said page and displayed on the browser when said place of this displayed page is clicked on (as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 1, the document interface system merges annotations with documents; as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 7, the document interface system merges each annotation into a particular place in said document; as indicated in the above rejection for Claim 1, the document interface system displays the merged annotations in conjunction with the documents; see Column 6, Lines 10-20 – DeMello discloses that the document interface system displays the annotation when a user clicks on the icon).

DeMello fails to expressly disclose:

- merging said place of the obtained page with a specialized tag.

Van Hoff teaches a client apparatus for displaying a page made in a markup language by a browser (see Figure 1; see Column 3, Line 66 through Column 4, Line 21 – Van Hoff teaches this limitation in that the computer system includes a client that displays web pages), comprising:

- merging a place of the obtained page with a specialized tag (see Figures 3 and 4; see Column 6, Line 64 through Column 7, Line 65 – Van Hoff teaches this limitation in that the computer system obtains the requested web page and annotates the web page by inserting a link in the web page at a matched pattern),

for the purpose of providing additional information regarding the requested web page (see Column 3, Lines 11-21).

Accordingly, it would have been obvious to one having ordinary skill in the art at the time the invention was made to modify the method, disclosed in DeMello, to include:

- merging a place of the obtained page with a specialized tag,

for the purpose of providing additional information regarding the requested web page, as taught by Van Hoff.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure: Lerner et al., U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2004/0172595; Kaghazian, U.S. Patent Application Publication No. US 2003/0185357; Pacifici et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,230,171; Sidana, U.S. Patent No. 6,081,829; Jakobson, U.S. Patent No. 6,697,838; and Gupta et al., U.S. Patent No. 6,484,156.

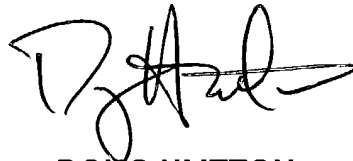
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Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Doug Hutton whose telephone number is (571) 272-4137. The examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday from 8:00 AM to 5:00 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Heather Herndon, can be reached at (703) 308-5186. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is (703) 746-7239.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 305-3900.

WDH
September 30, 2004

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Hutton', with a stylized flourish at the end.

**DOUG HUTTON
PATENT EXAMINER
TECH CENTER 2100**